

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Coal, Lead-Chrome-Zinc, Iron, and Copper Mines in Bulgaria	DATE DISTR.	4 May 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	4
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1

632823

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Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Coal

1. Approximately 30 coal mines were in operation in 1953, with a total production of about 4,070,000 tons. Almost all of the coal is lignite, with a 37-43 percent carbon content and a calorific value of 3,920 to 4,150. A total of approximately 40,000 workers are employed, including internees of forced labor camps, Trudovaks, and specialized workers.
2. In order to raise the production level and to reach the figures specified by the Five Year Plan, the following provisions are to be instituted:
 - a. Introduction of the Soviet cyclical method of work;
 - b. Laws restricting the miners to remain on the job longer unless they have justifiable reasons for leaving; and
 - c. Pay according to production.
3. The location of the various coal mines in operation during 1953 are as follows:
 - a. Sofia area:
 - Pernik.
 - Dobroslavtsi.
 - Belovo.
 - b. Dupnitsa basin:
 - Bobov Dol.
 - Zemen.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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- c. Belogradchik basin:
 - Stukevitsa.
 - Velkovtsi.
- d. Ferdinand (now Mikhaylovgrad) basin:
 - Dolni Lom.
 - Gorna Luka.
 - Berkovitsa.
- e. Khitos (sic) basin:
 - Khadzhiilar (sic, possibly Khadzhiolar, now Malko Dryanovo, Chirpan Okoliya).
- f. Dryanovo basin:
 - Staychov Khan.
 - Neykovtsi.
 - Kolibeto.
 - Stoyevtsi.
 - Radevtsi.
- g. Gabrovo basin:
 - Nova Makhala.
 - Tryavna.
- h. Sliven basin:
 - Byala.
 - Cham Dere.
- i. Nova Zagora basin:
 - Grankovo.
- j. Kazanluk basin:
 - Zlati Rut.
 - Seltse.
 - Samodivets.
- k. Chirpan basin:
 - Kara Atlii.
 - Mariyno
 - Cherno
 - Konevo (2)
- l. Khaskovo basin:
 - Kayadzhik.
 - Bestepe Dag (sic).

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m. Samokov basin:

- Dolna Banya.
- Musala.

n. Teteven basin:

- Ugurchin.
- Toros.

o. Burgas basin:

- Vurli Bryag.

Lead-Chrome-Zinc

4. The most important lead-zinc-chrome mining area is located southwest of Kurdzhali, near the Greek border, in the triangular area known as the Madan basin. The following mines form this basin:

- a. Zlatograd;
- b. Rudozem;
- c. Ardino;
- d. Srednogortsi;
- e. Strashimir;
- f. Fabrika;
- g. Konski Dol; and
- h. Ribnitsa.

5. The ore extracted from these mines is 76 percent lead, 18 percent zinc; and six percent iron. A total of approximately 10,000 civilian workers and 4,000 Trudovaks are employed. The exploitation of the basin is carried out by two Soviet companies, "Gorubso" and "Sovbolstroi." Until a short time ago, the director general was Zhdanov, a Soviet engineer; his two principal assistants were the Soviets Misio and Galikin.

6. Other small lead-zinc-chrome basins where extraction is under way are located as follows:

a. Kyustendil basin:

- Dolna Lubata (sic).

b. Teteven basin:

- Milkotsi (sic).

c. Kazanluk basin:

- Stara Zagora.

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d. Negochevo basin (20 kilometers from Sofia):

- Lithographic stone is extracted.

7. The total production of these minerals, according to approximate estimates, is as follows:

- a. Lead, 35,000 tons;
- b. Zinc, 9,000 tons; and
- c. Zinc and lead, 27,000 tons.

Iron

8. At present, only three iron mines are in operation:

- a. Breznik, northwest of Sofia;
- b. Yanabat (sic); and
- c. Burgas mines.

Copper

- 9. Copper is extracted from the Vŭrlŭ Bryag or "Rosen" Mine near Burgas and the Kŭrdzhali Mine near Podkova.
- 10. A total of 80,000 tons of copper was extracted in 1953.

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